

Submitter: rand dawson  
On Behalf Of: self  
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural  
Resources, and Water  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3501

As a 5th generation Oregonian, river rafter, hunter, fisherman and attorney w/ an interest in environmental issues, I oppose HB 3501 for several reason. First, no one should be potentially exposed to having to pay several thousand dollars to argue their position on water rights transfers before any reviewing or judicial authority. For over 40 years, on diverse issues, I have seen the prospect of such financial threats used to impede full and honest discussion of public interest issues. Keep the public interest door way open.....!!

--The public needs full access to express their interests on water rights transfers....knowing that the agency or authority considering such transfer is bound to fully consider all aspects of such "public interest."

--As more nonresident interests seek to acquire Oregon water rights....the Oregon public must retain a forum where its diverse interests can be openly received and intelligently reviewed and compared, with due mandated consideration.

--Reviewing agencies or authorities have significant wisdom or broad understanding on the implications of water rights issues, frequently not fully appreciated. Such wisdom as it relates to aspects of "public interest" should be on-the-table, and not forbidden fruit.

thank you Rand Dawson Ore Bar 1976, Alaska Bar 1976 private practitioner